IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented remote device monitoring system, comprising:

~~a processor; and~~

~~a computer-readable medium encoded with processor-readable instructions that when executed by the processor implement,~~

a local monitoring device ~~device information collecting mechanism~~ configured (1) to collect information from a device connected to a first network using a network management protocol[[;]], ~~a device information sending mechanism configured~~ and (2) to send the information to a monitor connected to a second network via a wide area network using a protocol; and

~~a device information receiving mechanism~~ the monitor configured to receive the information using the protocol and to store the information in a digital repository connected to the second network,

wherein the local monitoring device is configured to automatically request the information from the device, without receiving an instruction from the monitor.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the information comprises at least one of status information corresponding to the device and configuration information corresponding to the device.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the device comprises a printer.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the status information comprises at least one of a low paper indicator, a no paper indicator, a low toner indicator, a

no toner indicator, a door open indicator, a jammed indicator, an offline indicator, and a

service-requested indicator.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the configuration

information comprises at least one of a manufacturer of the device, a model of the device, a

serial number of the device, a media access control address, an Internet protocol address, a

company name, a street address, a city, a state, a postal code, a physical location of the

device, a contact person for the device, a phone number for the contact person, and an e-mail

address for the contact person.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the wide area

network comprises the Internet.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the protocol comprises at least one of a

simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet mail access protocol.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of at least one of the

first network and the second network comprises an intranet.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the digital repository comprises a

database.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein[[:]] the local monitoring

device is further

the computer readable medium is further encoded with processor readable instructions that when executed by the processor further implements, a device information storing mechanism configured to store the information collected by the device information collecting mechanism in a first digital repository connected to the first network[[;]], and the device information sending mechanism is further configured to retrieve the information from the first digital repository.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the digital repository comprises a database.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the local monitoring device comprises a computer readable medium encoded with processor readable instructions that comprise[[s]] at least one of a dynamic link library, a static link library, a script, a JAVA class, a C++ class, and a C library routine.

13. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the network management protocol comprises a simple network management protocol.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote monitor device information receiving mechanism is further configured to store the information in the digital repository through an open database connectivity interface.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the local monitoring device information storing mechanism is further configured to store the information in the first digital repository through an open database connectivity interface.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely monitoring network devices,

comprising ~~the steps of:~~

collecting, by a local monitoring device, information from a device connected to a

first network using a network management protocol;

sending, by the local monitoring device, the information collected in the collecting

step to a monitor connected to a second network via a wide area network using a protocol;

receiving, by the monitor, the information sent in the sending step ~~by the monitor~~; and

storing the information received in the receiving step in a digital repository connected

to the second network,

wherein the collecting step comprises automatically requesting the information from

the device, without receiving an instruction from the monitor.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the information comprises at least

one of status information corresponding to the device and configuration information

corresponding to the device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the device comprises a printer.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of the wide area

network comprises the Internet.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the network management protocol

comprises a simple network management protocol.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the protocol comprises at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet access protocol.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the digital repository comprises a database.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

storing the collected information collected in the ~~in the~~ collecting step in a first digital repository; and

retrieving the information stored in the <u>step of</u> storing the collected information ~~step~~ from the first digital repository.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the first digital repository comprises a database.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

a computer storage medium; and

a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to remotely monitor a device connected to a first network with a monitor connected to a second network, the computer program code mechanism ~~having,~~ <u>comprising:</u>

a first computer code device configured to collect information from the device <u>over the first network</u> using a network management protocol, <u>and</u>

a second computer code device configured to send the <u>collected</u> information to the monitor via a wide area network using a protocol, <u>wherein the first computer code device is</u>

configured to automatically request the information from the device, without receiving an

instruction from the monitor

~~a third computer code device configured to receive the information sent to the~~

~~monitor; and~~

~~a fourth computer code device configured to store the information received in a digital~~

~~repository connected to the second network~~.

26. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the information

comprises at least one of status information corresponding to the device and configuration

information corresponding to the device.

27. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the device

comprises a printer.

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein at least a portion

of the wide area network comprises the Internet.

29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the network

management protocol comprises a simple network management protocol.

30. (Original) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the protocol

comprises at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet access protocol.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the computer program code mechanism further ~~having,~~ comprises:

a ~~fifth~~ third computer code device configured to store the information collected by the first computer code device in a first digital repository[[,]]; and

a ~~sixth~~ fourth computer code device configured to retrieve the information from the first digital repository.

33. (Original) The computer program product of claim 32, wherein the first digital repository comprises a database.

34. (Currently Amended) A system for remotely monitoring network devices, comprising:

means for collecting information from a device connected to a first network using a network management protocol;

means for sending the information collected ~~in~~ by the means for collecting ~~step~~ to a monitor connected to a second network via a wide area network using a protocol;

means for receiving, by the monitor, the information sent ~~in~~ by the means for sending ~~step by the monitor~~; and

means for storing the information received ~~in~~ by the means for receiving ~~step~~ in a digital repository connected to the second network,

wherein the means for collecting comprises means for automatically requesting the information from the device, without receiving an instruction from the monitor.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34, wherein:

the network management protocol is a simple network management protocol; and

the protocol is at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet mail

access protocol.